

1 HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 50

2 47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2005

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Miguel P. Garcia

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 URGING THE PRESIDENT AND THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY
12 OF NEW MEXICO TO ENSURE ADEQUATE FUNDING OF EL CENTRO DE LA
13 RAZA AND ITS IMPORTANT ETHNIC, CIVIC, ACADEMIC AND SOCIAL
14 SERVICES TO STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO.

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16 WHEREAS, the legislature celebrates and supports New
17 Mexico's diversity and acknowledges that ethnic and racial
18 diversity contributes to academic excellence and enhances
19 classroom discourse; and

20 WHEREAS, el centro de la raza has been on the university
21 of New Mexico campus for thirty-five years serving the
22 interests and aspirations of the Hispanic student population;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, although el centro de la raza has experienced two
25 consecutive budget cuts, it has continued to serve over three

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1 thousand Hispanic students annually and an increasing number
2 every year; and

3 WHEREAS, el centro de la raza has participated in and has
4 received top ratings on three commission on higher education
5 evaluations and demonstrated increases in retention and
6 improved grade point averages; and

7 WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico graduates more
8 Hispanic students than any other university in the state, and
9 has one of the highest enrollments of Hispanic students at a
10 four-year institution in the nation; and

11 WHEREAS, the university of New Mexico receives federal
12 funding through the United States department of education
13 exclusively for Hispanic students because of its status as an
14 Hispanic-serving institution; and

15 WHEREAS, tuition pays for services available to all
16 people;

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
18 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that el centro de la raza is a viable
19 service essential to the success of and retention of Hispanic
20 students at the university of New Mexico; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ethnic-, culture-, minority-
22 and gender-based civic and social student services are critical
23 to achieving the academic mission at the university of New
24 Mexico in preparing New Mexicans for the future; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the university of New Mexico

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1 provide a stable commitment to its successful programs; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
3 provided to the president of the university of New Mexico, the
4 board of regents of the university of New Mexico and the
5 governor of the state of New Mexico.

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